

THE FRENCH CONSPIRACY.

An Official Statement—The "Act of Accusation" Against the Regicide Conspirators—What the Government Proposes to Prove.

Below we give a translation of the act of accusation of the High Court of Justice of France, which is to assemble at Blois on the 18th of July. It is dated June 4, and, after stating who formed the "chambres des mises en accusation," and that the registry of M. Grandpreux (this is the document published just before the plebiscite, which the "Marcellaise" published as a feuilleton) would be joined to the existing act, it thus proceeds:—

"For many years the revolutionary party had disarmed itself before the power and the authority of the Imperial power; but in 1868 the public meetings which were held in different points of the capital, and the violence of the speeches which were delivered there, had rekindled the passions. The men of action—as one of the accused has said—had recognized each other, had drawn together, and understood one another. Soon secret societies (sociétés secrètes) were organized, the Dupont, the Sappin, the Fontaine, and others, all known by the extravagance of their republican and socialist opinions. The police watched all the movements of the members of these meetings, without being able to penetrate as yet into their projects and their ends. Nevertheless, their influence was visible externally in the violent language of their adepts in the menaces of some of them against the agents of authority, and in a certain assurance of the success of their enterprises in a not distant future which they manifested. The slightest public emotion was seized on eagerly as an occasion for riots, and it was remarked that the rioters were immediately united, and seemed to assemble and to march at a given signal. The burial of Victor Noir, in the month of January, 1870, had been the occasion of a general review of the revolutionary party; and although a disagreement between Rochefort and Flourens stopped the crowd ready to rush (se ruent) upon Paris, the presence was nevertheless remarked then and there of all the chiefs of the party, as well as the organization of armed groups, and for a moment a sinister event was dreaded. This occasion having failed, Flourens and his adherents thought to seize another opportunity on the 7th of February, 1870, at the moment of the arrest of the Deputy Rochefort. Flourens, who presided over a public meeting, numerous and extremely agitated, did not fear to proclaim the republic, sword in hand, to seize the person of the commissary of police, and to parade the streets, calling the citizens to arms. At his call, armed groups were formed, barricades were raised at different points, shops were pillaged under pretence of searching for arms, and during three days certain quarters of Paris were a prey to the most serious disorders. The rioters had manifested their projects by the most culpable acts; the police, therefore, had full liberty of action, and numerous arrests were made on the barricades and wherever disorder showed itself. Search was made at the domicile of the men composing the convention, whom the police had for some time watched. Arms and ammunition were found there, and a great number of revolutionary writings. Arms were soon discovered, by the confession of the accused themselves, that groups of agitators had been formed by the advice of Villeneuve, a friend of Blanqui, at St. Ouen, at Batignolles, at Belleville, and at Levallois; that subscriptions had been opened to buy arms, and that these arms, when bought, had been distributed to those who were not able to provide themselves; that at length the determination had been taken to overthrow the Imperial Government, and to attempt the life of the Emperor. One only point remained obscure; how could these men, armed only with revolvers for the most part, have persuaded themselves that they could fight with success the public forces with the formidable arms which they possess? In the secret meetings it had been answered to this question that there was an understanding with the army. But what had reassured the most timid were these words, often repeated by the leaders, "Science will take the place of force (la science suppléera la force)." These words have been frequently met with during the inquiry, but what did they mean? The process relative to the facts reported above was on the point of being terminated when new facts came to light. The Prefecture of Police was informed, on the one hand, that a man named Beary had arrived from London with the design of assassinating the Emperor; and, on the other hand, that explosive bombs were being made in Paris, either to serve for an attempt against his Majesty, or to be employed against the troops in case of a revolutionary movement. A surveillance was established. Beary was arrested on the 29th of April, being the bearer of six chambers loaded with powder. Camille Beary, private in the 7th Regiment of the Line, quartered in Paris, had deserted after the funeral of Salmon, called Victor Noir, at which he had been present. He went first of all to Belgium, and thence to London, where he met with another deserter, named Fayolle, and where he also met Gustave Flourens, whom he had known in Paris. Beary was present in London at a banquet given by the refugees to Tibaldi, of Italian origin, condemned in France, recently returned from Cayenne. Beary had affirmed and persists in affirming, that the resolution to assassinate the Emperor was taken by Fayolle, Flourens, Tibaldi, and himself; that they drew lots for which of the four conspirators should be the first to act, and that it was him (Beary) who chance chose; and that the next day he left for France. Arrived in Paris, he put himself in relations with a man named Soret, to whom he had been recommended by Flourens, and also with a man named Ballot, who gave him money on Flourens' account. Soret is the individual with whom Flourens took refuge on the night of the 7th of February, and it was in Ballot's house that the same Flourens remained hid during forty days, from the 8th of February to the 20th of March. Ballot did not confine himself to handing money to Beary; he also gave money, always by order of Flourens, to those who were employed in making bombs. As to this fabrication, the inquiry has established that, at an epoch which has not been able to be exactly fixed, the man named Rousset had, as the man named Letonneau declares, given to the said Letonneau, and to the man named Grenier, the pattern of these bombs

in order that they might make a model in wood; to this end Letonneau and Grenier went to one modeller who refused, then to another who made and delivered the model in wood; they told him that the design was for a rotary machine for sewing-machines. Once the model made, Grenier charged the man named Lerond to make a casting from it. Lerond applied successively to three iron-founders to whom he said that it was for the navos (moyeux) of velocipedes, or else an apparatus for the telegraph; one of these founders delivered twenty-two bombs, another six, the third none at all. They were returned to Lerond, who partly prepared them. Letonneau on his part admitted having prepared four. The bombs were taken to Grenier's, and it was at Rousset's that twenty-one of them were seized on the 29th April. On that day Rousset had gone to Epinay with a named Greffier, in order to get a railway guard to buy in Belgium a certain quantity of revolvers; on his return from Epinay, about eight in the evening, he was arrested in the street, on the Boulevard Meunier; but directly he cried out that he was not a chief, but a Republican, etc., a crowd collected, attacked the police, and rescued the prisoner. The police at once went to the domicile of Rousset, and seized twenty-one bombs loaded (montées), half of the wooden model, handles in copper wire, glass tubes, nails, a six-chambered revolver like the one found on Beary, a sheet of paper on which was written the formula for the production of a sort of powder, a small quantity of the same powder, etc. The day before or two days before this day Ballot, Rousset, Grenier, and Rousset were together at a wine-seller's, from which they went to go to Rousset's to examine the bombs. The concubine of Soret has declared that Grenier gave her a bomb to show to Ballot, and that she carried it to the latter. It was Grenier who received the funds from Ballot which were destined to pay for the making of the bombs. The surplus was given by Ballot either to Soret or to Rousset directly. The accused Bayol lived in the same house as Rousset. This latter showed him one of the bombs, and several which were not yet prepared, saying to him, "I shall make use of them." Bayol understood that it was (qu'il agissait) either to blow up the Emperor or else houses. The 29th of April, in the morning, he had undertaken, at Rousset's request, to carry away the bombs from the house, but this could not be done. Rousset and Soret have taken flight; the place of their retreat is not known. Ballot was arrested the 4th of May at the Northern Railway station at the moment he was about to leave Paris. Experts have been charged to examine the bombs; they have reported that these bombs, when loaded with common powder, produce but a very moderate effect, but that, loaded with the powder of which the recipe was found at Rousset's, they burst in a manner to produce terrible effects. Under these circumstances, the court declares its competence, etc.

Then follows the list of 72 accused, which has already appeared in the decree convoking the High Court.

THE WAR CLOUD.

What is behind it—The Warlike Appliances of France and Prussia—Their Relative Strength in Men and Arms. In view of the serious complications between France and Prussia over the question of Prince Leopold's candidacy for the Spanish throne, and the probability of an appeal to arms for their settlement, the following summary of the relative strength of the two antagonistic nations is important:—

Table with columns: Name, No. of vessels, Guns, Iron-clad, Frigates and corvettes, Gunboats, Yacht, Paddle corvettes, Sailing vessels. Includes entries for Napoleon and his chieftains, and various naval vessels.

The population of France, according to the census of 1866, was (exclusive of 123,000 soldiers stationed outside of the empire) 38,067,054, of which 11,985,348 lived in towns and 26,081,706 in the rural districts. As regards nationality, 635,495 were resident foreigners, the remainder native Frenchmen. The difference of language among the natives of France has been the subject of an official census. It is estimated that about 1,300,000 of the population (Absace and Lorraine) speak German, their native tongue, 300,000 Flemish, 1,900,000 Walloon, 1,100,000 Breton. In their religious faith the people are divided as follows:—Catholics, 37,307,311; Protestants, 846,619; Jews, 98,040; Mohammedans, 24,180; and Algerians, Catholics, 211,195; Protestants, 5002; Jews, 53,737; Mohammedans, 2,688,746; other sects, 17,233. The population of the French colonies (not included in the above enumeration) is 2,949,678, and the population of countries in Asia, Africa, and Oceania, under the protection of France, is 3,963,575—making a grand total of people living under the sway of the French Emperor of 44,535,317.

iron-clad, with 68 guns, and 23 non-iron-clad, with 144 guns, building. The following is a list of the chief vessels in the French iron-clad navy, with their strength in guns and nominal horse-power:—

Table with columns: Name, Guns, Horse Power. Lists various iron-clad ships like Valmy, Magenta, Solferino, Courbet, etc.

The French naval force consists of 73,446 men. There are two admirals, C. Rigault de Genouilly, and F. T. Troubat; 6 active vice-admirals, and 30 active counter-admirals. BISMARCK'S BACKING—POPULATION OF PRUSSIA.—ORGANIZATION OF THE ARMY.—IN TIME OF PEACE PREPARED FOR WAR. The total population of the kingdom of Prussia, according to the census of December 3, 1868, was 24,048,320. This includes the population of the territories absorbed by Prussia. The total population of towns and cities was 7,456,350.

The national debt of Prussia is 442,639,372 thalers, or over \$200,000,000. The total revenues are about 170,000,000 thalers, and the total expenditures 100,000,000 thalers.

The German military organization is complete, and according to a statement in the Prussian Military Gazette, "a million soldiers can at any moment be placed under arms by a single telegram from Berlin." The Prussian army is organized as follows:—The Prussian army consists of 225 battalions of infantry, 263 squadrons of cavalry, 11 regiments of artillery, with 146 guns, and 43 battalions of engineers, making in all 410,000 soldiers. To these should be added the Federal contingents of Saxony, Brunswick, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, and Hesse-Darmstadt, in all 53,000 men. But this force of 463,000 only represents the standing army of North Germany. In case of emergency, Prussia also commands the services of the troops of Baden, Wurtemberg, and Bavaria, and immediately after a reserve, consisting of an army of 143,000 men. An additional force of 300,000 men is at her disposal for the occupation of towns and garrisons. Every Prussian subject is enrolled as a soldier as soon as he has completed his twentieth year. He serves, unless exempted, three years in the regular army, four in the reserve, and at the end of this term enters the Landwehr or militia for nine years. Leaving the Landwehr he is finally enrolled in the Landsturm until he is fifty years of age.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE UNION FIRE EXTINGUISHER COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA.

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